****Frequently Asked Questions****

****Graduate Diploma in Child, Family, and Community Nursing****

Dear applicant,

The following pages outline some of the more frequently asked questions, including critical dates, to help you plan for next year.

To qualify for entry to the course you must be a registered Nurse and Midwife and have at least two years of nursing and/or midwifery experience. You must have a confirmed clinical place in a Maternal and Child Health service. Information about how to apply for a clinical position is available from the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) website. [Here is the link to the MAV website – **MCH Resources**](https://www.mav.asn.au/what-we-do/policy-advocacy/social-community/children-youth-family/maternal-and-child-health-children-0-6-years/maternal-and-child-health-resources)

Most of our places in the course are Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP). Where there are more applicants than CSPs available, selection will be on equity grounds, such as living in a rural area, identifying as an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander, being Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD), demonstrating financial need (Commonwealth Health Care Card), or those intending to work in Councils with workforce shortages. You can apply for a CSP when applying for the course by providing an additional personal statement.

We also offer fee-paying places (approximately $26,500 for the Graduate Diploma). You can defer payment of your fees by taking out a FEE-HELP loan. The Department of Health (DH) offers scholarships (up to $7500) to assist with the cost of your education. The ANMF also offers scholarships to assist with the cost of education. [**Here is the ANMF scholarship link**](https://www.anmfvic.asn.au/about-us/anmf-grants-awards-and-prizes)

Course applications open for the 2023 mid-year intake on the 1st of April. Here is the website for all applications: [**Apply direct - Postgraduate, Study with us, La Trobe University**](https://www.latrobe.edu.au/study/apply/postgrad/vic/direct)**.** Applications for 2024 will open in the first week of August.

If you have any queries about the course, the best way to contact me is via email or phone.

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| Regards,  Dr Catina Adams  Course Coordinator,  Child, Family & Community Nursing  M: 0403 550 935  E: [catina.adams@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:catina.adams@latrobe.edu.au) | A person wearing glasses  Description automatically generated with low confidence |

****Course structure****

The Graduate Diploma in Child, Family, and Community Nursing comprises 120 credit points – 90 credit points of core subjects and 30 credit points of electives.

The core subjects are:

NSM4MCH – Maternal and Child Health (30 credit points) – all year

NSM4CCH – Community Child Health (15 credit points) – semester 1

NSM5CAF – Nurturing Child and Family (15 credit points) – semester 1

NSM5COM – Complex Care in Maternal and Child Health (30 credit points) – semester 2

****Electives****

Elective options may include (click on links for subject descriptions):

[**NSM4IPH – Indigenous Perinatal Health subject**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2022/NSM4IPH) (15 credit points, week 27-44) commences 26/06

[**NSM4REM – Research and Evidence in Midwifery**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2022/NSM4REM?year=2022)(15 credit points, week 06-26) commences 05/02

[[**NSM5RES – Research in Nursing and Midwifery**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2022/NSM5RES)](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2022/NSM5RES) (30 credit points, semester 1 or 2)

[**NSM5RFN – Research in Nursing (**15 credit points, semester 1 or 2)](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/NSM5RFN?offering=Select+Offering)

[**NSM5EDU – Education in Nursing and Midwifery**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/NSM5EDU?offering=Select+Offering)(30 credit points, semester 1 or 2)

[**NSM5MAN – Management in Nursing and Midwifery**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/NSM5MAN?year=2023&offering=Select+Offering)(30 credit points, semester 1 or 2)

[**PHE5HHS – Health systems**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5HHS?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points - Term 5)

[**PHE5PHR – Public Health responses**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5PHR?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points - Term 5)

[**PHE5PSP – Health promotion strategy and practice**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5PSP?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 1 or 4)

[**PHE5STL – Systems thinking and leadership**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5STL?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 1 or 4)

[**PHE5EPB – Epidemiology and biostatistics**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5EPB?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 2 or 6)

**PHE5HCQ –** [**Healthcare quality**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5HCQ?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 3 or 6)

[**PHE5MLH – Management and leadership in health**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5MLH?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 2)

[**PHE5SOM – Strategy and operation management**](https://handbook.latrobe.edu.au/subjects/2023/PHE5SOM?offering=Select+Offering) (15 credit points, Term 3)

Or external electives such as:

* Nurse Immuniser Program – [**La Trobe**](https://www.latrobe.edu.au/courses/short-courses/nurse-immuniser-program)**,** or[**The University of Melbourne**](https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/short-courses/immunisation-nurse-immuniser/)
* [**The Australasian Lactation Course**](https://www.australasianlactationcourses.com/about-the-courses)(or other approved lactation studies)
* [**Comprehensive Sexual and Reproductive Health (Nursing) course**](https://www.fpv.org.au/courses/comprehensive-sexual-and-reproductive-health-nursing-course?section=professional-learning-support)
* [**Solihull**](https://www.solihullapproach.com.au/)
* Other approved postgraduate subjects.

Students wishing to complete a Master of Nursing should include NSM5RES (30 credit points) as their elective unless they have previously completed 30 credit points in research subjects.

****Credit for electives****

You can apply for credit for up to 30 credit points if you have completed postgraduate studies within the last eight years, which may include the Postgraduate Diploma in Midwifery.

****Semester dates****

These are the semester dates for 2023 and 2024.

* Semester 2 – 31/07/2023 (Week 32) – 29/10/2023 (Week 44). 3-day workshop at the city campus (1, 2, and 3rd August) face to face. Sessions will be recorded.
* Semester 1 – 04/03/2024 (Week 10) – 31/05/2024 (Week 22) – clinical placement from 01/04/2024. 3-day workshop at the city campus (5, 6 and 7th March). Sessions will be recorded.
* Semester 2 – 29/07/2024 (Week 32) – 25/10/2024 (Week 44). 3-day workshop at the city campus (30, 31 July, 1August). Sessions will be recorded.

****Enrolment****

There are a few ways you can complete the course, with different entry and exit points, and with different patterns of placement. NSM4MCH and NSM5COM are the two placement subjects.

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| **Full-time (12-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
| NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points)  Elective (15 credit points) | NSM5COM (30 credit points)  Elective (15 credit points) |

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| **Part-time (18-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
| Elective (15 credit points)  Elective (15 credit points) | NSM5COM (30 credit points) |
| Year 2 | NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points) | mid-year graduation |

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| **Part-time (24-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
| Elective (15 credit points) | Elective (15 credit points) |
| Year 2 | NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points) | NSM5COM (30 credit points) |

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| **Part-time (24-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 | NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points) | Elective (15 credit points)  Elective (15 credit points) |
| Year 2 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
|  |  | NSM5COM (30 credit points) |

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| **MID-YEAR INTAKE**  **Part-time (18-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 |  | NSM5COM (30 credit points) |
| Year 2 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
| NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points) | Elective (15 credit points)  Elective (15 credit points) |
| **MID-YEAR INTAKE**  **Part-time (24-months)** | **Semester 1** | **Semester 2** |
| Year 1 |  | NSM5COM (30 credit points) |
| Year 2 | NSM4MCH (all year 30 credit points) | |
| Elective (15 credit points) | Elective (15 credit points) |
| Year 3 | NSM5CAF (15 credit points)  NSM4CCH (15 credit points) | mid-year graduation |

****Studying online****

Most of the teaching in this course is done online via the Learning Management System (LMS). Broadband internet is required to enable access to the teaching resources and to participate in the ZOOM classes.

****Timetable****

**Workshops**

There are two three-day workshops in this course to be held at the City Campus, one each semester. These may be offered online, depending on physical distancing requirements, and are recorded.

**Tutorials**

Online contact with your lecturers will occur through regular scheduled online “workshops” (via Zoom), where we can talk in real-time. Although these sessions are recorded, it is best to attend the live session. Generally, they will be held on Thursdays at 10am-12pm.

****Clinical experience requirements****

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| **NSM4MCH (all year)** |  |  |
| Universal MCH (UMCH) | 116 | May commence from week 14 |
| Childcare centre | 8 | Self-sourced |
| Early intervention agency | 8 | Self-sourced |
| Day stay/ Early Parenting Centre | 8 | Self-select (InPlace) or self-sourced |
| Total subject hours | **140** |  |
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| **NSM5COM (Semester 2)** |  |  |
| Universal MCH (UMCH) | 108 | (mid-year entry - may commence from week 36) |
| Family support services | 8 | Self-sourced, i.e., drug and alcohol, housing, Orange Door, |
| Early Parenting Centre | 24 | Self-select (InPlace) or self-sourced |
| Total subject hours | **140** |  |

****Resources****

Most textbooks are available as an e-book or hard copies. Books are available through various suppliers and may be purchased from the bookshop on campus or online at <http://www.coop-bookshop.com.au/bookshop/home/homepage.html>. The library also holds copies of the textbooks on reserve. You will use these books throughout the course.

**Prescribed Resources:**

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| **Textbook** | *Pediatric Physical Examination  (3rd Ed)* | Duderstadt, K. G. | Elsevier, 2018 |
| **Textbook** | *From Birth to Five Years: Practical developmental examination* | Sharma, A. & Cockerill, H. | Routledge, 2022 |
| **Professional Standard** | *Competency Standards for the Victorian Maternal and Child Health Nurse* | VAMCHN (ANMF) order from <http://www.vamchn.org.au/> | VAMCHN, 2009 Included in student membership of $15 |
| **Professional Standard** | *Documentation Standards for Maternal and Child Health Nurses in Victoria* | VAMCHN (ANMF) & VMCHCG order from <http://www.vamchn.org.au/> | VAMCHN, 2016  $10 |
| **Online  Resource** | *PEDS eLearning Foundation  (Course 1)* | CCCH, *Cost Approx. $55 (student discount) - enrol online at:* [*https://www.rch.org.au/ccch/peds/Training\_and\_eLearning/*](https://www.rch.org.au/ccch/peds/Training_and_eLearning/) | |
| **Textbook** | *Paediatric Handbook (10th Ed)* | Harding, K., Mason. DS & Efron, D. [**https://shop.rch.org.au/product/paediatric-handbook-2/**](https://shop.rch.org.au/product/paediatric-handbook-2/) | RCH, 2021 |

**Recommended Resources:** You aren't required to have these, but you may find them helpful.

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| **Textbook** | *Mary Sheridan's From Birth to Five Years: Children's developmental progress  (5th Ed)* | Sharma, A. & Cockerill, H. | Routledge, 2022 |
| **Textbook** | *Promoting Health: The primary care approach (6th Ed)* | Talbot, L. & Verrinder, G. | Elsevier, 2018 |
| **Textbook** | *Motivational Interviewing: Helping people change (3rd Ed)* | Rollnick, S. & Miller, W. R., | Guildford Press, 2013 |
| **Textbook** | *Communicating in the Health Sciences  (2nd Ed)* | Higgs, J., Ajjawi, R., McAllister, L., Trede, F., & Loftus, S. | Oxford, 2012 |